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157952



SUPERFUND TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE TEAM
EPA CONTRACT 68-W5-0019

October 21, 1997

Mr. Eric Wilson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Removal Action Branch
2890 Woodbridge Avenue
Edison, NJ 08837

EPA CONTRACT NO: 68-W5-0019

TDD NO: 02-97-02-0015

DOCUMENT CONTROL NO: START-02-F-01425

SUBJECT: RESIDENTIAL SOIL SAMPLING QA/QC WORK PLAN - Cornell-Dubilier
Electronics Site

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Enclosed please find the Work and Sampling Plan for the residential soil sampling episode to be initiated on October 27, 1997. Soil samples are to be collected from each residential property which has frontage on Spicer Ave., between Hamilton Blvd. and Belmont Ave. If you have any questions, please call me at (732) 225-6116.

Very truly yours,

ROY F. WESTON, INC.

Michael Mahnkopf
Project Manager

Enclosure

cc: TDD File



RESIDENTIAL SOIL SAMPLING QA/QC WORK PLAN

CORNELL-DUBILIER ELECTRONICS SITE
SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Prepared by

Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
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Prepared for

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Region II - Removal Action Branch
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DCN: START-02-F-01425
TDD No.: 02-97-02-0015
PCS No.: 2076
EPA Contract No.: 68-W5-0019

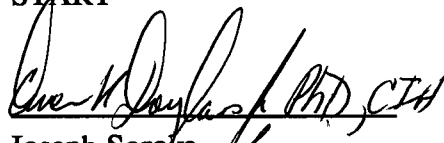
Approved By:

START


Michael Mahnkopf
Project Manager


Date: 10/21/97

START


Joseph Soroka
START QA/QC

Date: 10-21-97

EPA


Eric Wilson
On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 10/27/97

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ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A: Figures and Maps

ATTACHMENT B: Soil Sampling SOP, EPA/ERT #2012

ATTACHMENT C: Sampling Equipment Decontamination SOP, EPA/ERT #2006

1.0 BACKGROUND

Site Description

The Cornell-Dubilier Site is located at 333 Hamilton Boulevard in South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey (Attachment A, Figure 1). The site is approximately 25 acres in size. Facing Hamilton Boulevard are several buildings currently occupied by approximately 15 businesses. The rear of the property consists of an open field and adjoining wetlands. The facility is currently known as Hamilton Industrial Park.

The site is bordered by Hamilton Boulevard to the northwest, Spicer Avenue to the southwest, a wetlands area to the southeast, the Bound Brook and Conrail railroad tracks to the northeast. The Bound Brook traverses the southeast section of the site.

Cornell-Dubilier operated at the site from 1936 to 1962, manufacturing electronic components, including capacitors. It is alleged that during its operation, Cornell-Dubilier disposed of PCB contaminated materials and other hazardous substances at the site.

Previous investigations have identified polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and heavy metals at the Cornell-Dubilier site and in the Bound Brook downstream of the site.

PCBs were detected in soil samples collected from residential and commercial properties in June, 1997. This sampling was not sufficient to characterize PCB contamination at these properties.

2.0 SAMPLING/DATA USE OBJECTIVES

The objective of this sampling program is to collect the data necessary to evaluate the risk to residents of the properties sampled from exposure to PCBs in residential soil. This sampling event is a follow-up to the June, 1997 residential sampling event mentioned above. Surface (0-2") soil samples will be collected from each residential property which has frontage on Spicer Ave., between Hamilton Boulevard and Belmont Ave. Surface soil samples will also be collected from a residential property located on Metuchen Rd.

3.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE OBJECTIVES

The overall Quality Assurance (QA) objective for chemical measurement data associated with this sampling event is to provide analytical results that are legally defensible in a court of law. The QA program will incorporate Quality Control (QC) procedures for field sampling, chain of custody, laboratory analyses, and reporting to assure generation of sound analytical results.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC), has specified a Level 2 Quality Assurance (QA-2) objective for the soil samples. Details of this Quality Assurance Level are provided in Section 6.0. The objective of this project/event applies to the following parameters:

Table 1: Quality Assurance Objectives

QA Parameters	Matrix	Intended Use of Data	QA Objective
PCBs	Soil	Risk evaluation; removal action eligibility	QA-2

The Field Sampling Summary is included as Table 2 and the QA/QC Analysis and Objectives Summary is included as Table 3.

TABLE 2: FIELD SAMPLING SUMMARY

Analytical Parameters	Matrix	Container Size	Preservative	Holding Time*	Subtotal Samples	Rinsate Blanks	Duplicate Samples	MS/MSD Samples	Total Field Samples
Total PCBs	Soil	1 - 8 oz. glass jars	Cool to 4 C	7 days to extraction, 40 days to analysis	340	-	17	17	374
Total PCBs	Aqueous/ Rinsate	2 - 1 liter amber	Cool to 4 C	7 days		1 per sampling day	NA	NA	5-6

* Holding time from date of sampling

TABLE 3: QA/QC ANALYSIS AND OBJECTIVES SUMMARY

QA Parameters	Matrix	Analytical Method Reference	QA/QC Quantitation Limits	QA Objective
Total PCBs	Soil/ Aqueous	CLP SOW OLMO 3.1 or most current revision or SW-846 Method Nos. 8080 (PCBs)	As per method	QA-2

4.0 APPROACH AND SAMPLING METHODOLOGIES

4.1 Sampling Equipment

Surface soil samples will be collected with dedicated plastic scoops and/or spatulas in order to minimize cross-contamination and decontamination.

4.2 Sampling Design

Approximately twenty (20) surface (0-2") soil samples will be collected from a maximum of seventeen (17) properties. Prior to sample collection, a 36 sq. inch (6" X 6") section of grass will be removed from the sample location, if necessary. Approximately 340 soil samples, plus 17 field duplicates and 17 matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate (MS/MSD) samples will be collected and analyzed for PCBs. All sample locations will be determined utilizing a systematic sampling scheme which will be determined in the field by the OSC and START PM.

Individual soil samples shall be designated in accordance with the following identification scheme:

Example 1 - Sample CDA-001 where:

CD = Cornell-Dubilier;
A = First residence sampled;
001 = Sample # 1.

Example 2 - Sample CDB-002 where:

CD = Cornell-Dubilier;
B = Second residence sampled;
002 = Sample # 2.

QA/QC samples will include the collection of one (1) field duplicate and one (1) matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate sample for each matrix (soil) at a ratio of 1 per 20 samples. Extra sample volume will be submitted to allow the laboratory to perform matrix spike sample analysis. This analysis provides information about the effect of sample matrix digestion and measurement methodology. Field duplicate samples provide an indication of analytical variability and analytical error and will not be identified to the laboratory. In addition, one (1) rinsate blank per sampling date will also be submitted for PCB analysis. The rinsate blank is an indicator of the effectiveness of the equipment decontamination procedures.

This sampling design is based on information currently available and may be modified on site in light of other acquired information. All deviations from the sampling plan will be noted in the Sampling Trip Report.

4.3 Standard Operating Procedures

4.3.1 Sample Documentation

All sample documents will be completed legibly, in ink. Any corrections or revisions will be made by lining through the incorrect entry and by initialing the error.

FIELD LOGBOOK

The bound field logbook is essentially a descriptive notebook detailing site activities and observations so that an accurate account of field procedures can be reconstructed in the writer's absence. All entries will be dated and signed by the individuals making the entries, and should include, at a minimum, the following:

1. Site name and project number.
2. Name(s) of personnel on-site.
3. Dates and times of all entries (military time preferred).
4. Descriptions of all site activities, including site entry and exit times.
5. Type of sampling equipment used.
6. Difficulties encountered and deviations from sampling plan.
7. Noteworthy events and discussions.
8. Weather conditions.
9. General site observations (stains, spills, etc.).
10. Sample type (grab or composite), description of samples collected, sample preservations (if any), and sample locations/sample depth.
11. Date and time of sample collections, sampler's name, along with chain of custody information.
12. Record and description of photographs, if any.
13. Site sketches, including site layout and sample location sketches.

SAMPLE LABELS

Sample labels will clearly identify the particular sample, and should include, at a minimum, the following:

1. Site/project number.
2. Sample identification number.
3. Sample collection date and time.
4. Designation of sample (grab or composite).

5. Sample preservation.
6. Analytical parameters.
7. Name of sampler(s).

Sample labels will be written in indelible ink and securely affixed to the sample container. Labels will be covered with clear waterproof tape to protect the label from water and solvent. Tie-on labels can be used if properly secured.

CHAIN OF CUSTODY RECORD

A chain of custody record will be maintained from the time that the sample is collected to its final deposition. Every transfer of custody must be noted and signed for, and a copy of this record kept by each individual who has signed it. When samples, or groups of samples, are not under direct control of the individual responsible for them, they must be stored in a locked container sealed with a custody seal. The chain of custody record should include, at minimum, the following:

1. Sample identification number.
2. Sample information.
3. Sample location.
4. Sample date.
5. Name(s) and signature(s) of sampler(s).
6. Signature(s) of any individual(s) with control over samples.

CUSTODY SEALS

Custody seals demonstrate that a sample container has not been tampered with, or opened. The individual in possession of the sample(s) will sign and date the seal, affixing it in such a manner that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The name of this individual, along with a description of the sample packaging, will be noted in the field logbook.

4.3.2 Sampling Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

Soil Sampling

Soil sampling activities will be performed in accordance with the guidelines outlined in EPA/ERT Soil Sampling SOP #2012 (Attachment B).

Decontamination

Decontamination procedures will be conducted in accordance with guidelines outlined in EPA/ERT SOP #2006, Sampling Equipment Decontamination (Attachment C). A hexane rinse will be used.

4.3.3 Sample Handling and Shipment

Each of the sample jars will be sealed and labeled according to the following protocol. Caps will be secured with custody seals. Jar labels will contain all required information including sample number, time and date of collection, analyses requested, sample description and preservative, if used. Sealed jars will be placed in large metal or plastic coolers, and padded with an absorbent material such as vermiculite. If the samples are to be shipped, all packaging will conform to IATA Transportation regulations for overnight carriers. All sample documents will be sealed in a plastic bag and affixed to the underside of each cooler lid. The lid will be sealed and affixed on at least two sides with seals so that any type of tampering is easily visible.

4.3.4 Sample Containers

All sample containers will meet the QA/QC specifications in OSWER Directive 9240.0-05A, "Specifications and Guidance for the Contaminant Free Sample Containers".

4.4 Analytical Methods

Analytical methods to be utilized in the analysis of samples collected during this sampling event are detailed in Table 3 (Section 3.0).

4.5 Schedule of Activities

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Surface soil sampling	10/27/97	On or about 11/01/97

4.6 Disposal of PPE and Contaminated Materials

To the extent possible, all PPE and sampling materials will be decontaminated on site, double bagged and disposed of appropriately.

5.0 PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The EPA OSC, Eric Wilson, will provide overall direction to the Region II START members concerning project sampling needs, objectives and schedule. The Region II START Project Manager (PM), Michael Mahnkopf, will be the primary point of contact with the OSC. The PM is responsible for the development and completion of the Sampling QA/QC Plan, project team organization and supervision of all project tasks, including reporting and deliverables. The site QC Coordinator will be responsible for ensuring field adherence to the Sampling QA/QC Plan and recording of any deviations. The START Analytical Services Coordinator, Smita Sumbly, will be the primary project team site contact with the subcontracted laboratory.

START will arrange for the laboratory analyses. START personnel will transfer custody of the soil samples for shipment to the appropriate laboratory. The raw analytical data from the laboratory will be provided to the START Analytical Services Group for data validation.

The following personnel will work on this project:

<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
Eric Wilson	On-Scene Coordinator
Michael Mahnkopf	Project Manager/Sampler/Field QA/QC Officer
TBD	Site Sampling/Sample Management
TBD	Site Sampling
TBD	Site Sampling
TBD	Data Validation

The OSC has requested a standard analytical turnaround. The following laboratories will provide the following analyses:

<u>Lab Name/Location</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>	<u>Parameters</u>
TBD	Soil/Aqueous	PCBs

6.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements apply to the respective QA Objectives and parameters identified in Section 3.0. The QA Protocols for a Level 2 QA objective sampling event are applicable to all sample matrices and include:

1. Sample documentation in the form of field logbooks, appropriate field data sheets, and chain of custody records (chain of custody records are optional for field screening locations);
2. Calibration of all monitoring and/or field-portable analytical equipment prior to collection and analyses of samples with results and/or performance check procedures/methods summarized and documented in a field, personal, and/or instrument log notebook;
3. Field or laboratory determined method detection limits (MDLs) will be recorded along with corresponding analytical sample results, where appropriate;
4. Analytical holding times as determined from the time of sample collection through analysis. These will be documented in the field logbook or by the laboratory in the final data deliverable package;
5. Initial and continuous instrument calibration data;
6. QC blank results (rinsate, trip, method, preparation, instrument, etc.), as applicable;
7. Collection and analysis of blind field duplicate and MS/MSD QC samples to provide a quantitative measure of the analytical precision and accuracy, as applicable; and
8. Use of the following QC procedure for QC analyses and data validation:

Definitive identification - confirm the identification of analytes on 10% of the screened (field or laboratory) or 100% of the unscreened samples, via an EPA-approved method; provide documentation such as gas chromatograms, mass spectra, etc.

7.0 DELIVERABLES

The Region II START PM will maintain contact with the OSC to keep him informed of the technical and financial progress of this project. This communication will commence with the issuance of the work assignment and project scoping meeting. Activities under this project will be reported in status and trip reports and other deliverables (e.g., analytical reports, final reports) described herein. The following deliverables will be provided under this project:

TRIP REPORT

A trip report will be prepared within one week of the last day of each sampling mobilization. Information will be provided on time of major events, dates, and personnel on site (including affiliations).

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS SUMMARY REPORT

A final report will be prepared to provide a detailed account of what occurred during the sampling event. The report will be prepared and submitted within two (2) weeks upon receipt and validation of the analytical data packages. The final report will provide the following information:

1. Project/site background;
2. Project objectives;
3. Sampling scheme/strategy;
4. Sample collection (dates);
5. Project personnel and their affiliations;
6. Analytical results;
7. Site specific QA/QC plan;
8. Discussion of analytical results.

ANALYTICAL REPORT

An analytical report will be prepared by the appropriate laboratory for samples analyzed under this plan. Information regarding the analytical methods or procedures employed, sample results, QA/QC results, chain of custody documentation, laboratory correspondence, and raw data will be provided within this deliverable.

DATA REVIEW

A review of the data generated under this plan will be undertaken. The assessment of data acceptability or useability will be provided separately, or as part of the analytical report.

8.0 DATA VALIDATION

Data generated under this QA/QC Sampling Plan will be evaluated according to criteria contained in the Removal Program Data Validation Procedures that accompany OSWER Directive number 9360.4-1 and in accordance with Region II guidelines using the following data validation SOP: SOP HW-13, "USEPA Region H Data Validation SOP for Statement of Work OLCO 2.1, Rev.2". Laboratory analytical results will be assessed by the data reviewer for compliance with required precision, accuracy, completeness, representativeness, and sensitivity.

9.0 SYSTEM AUDIT

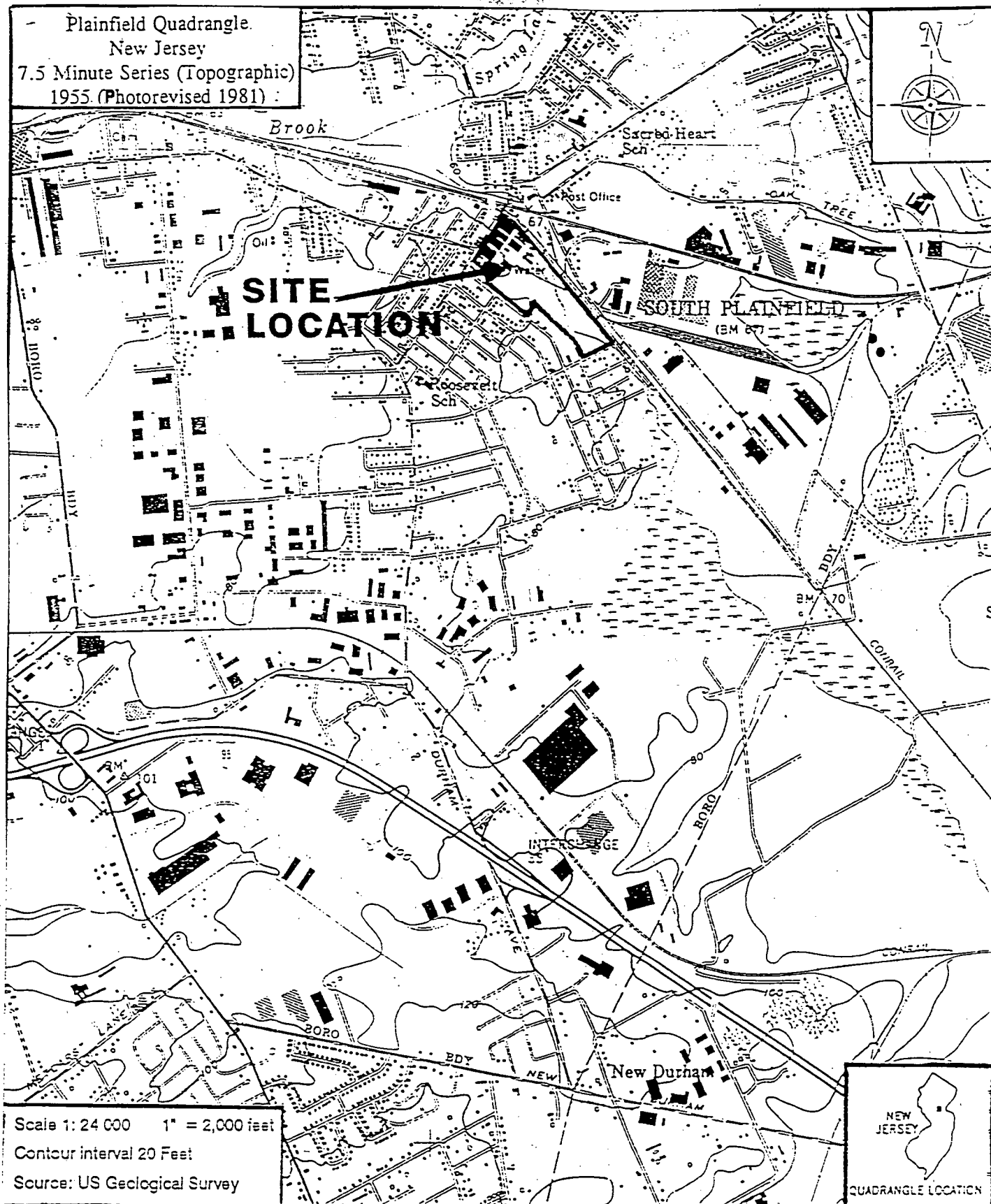
The field QA/QC officer will observe sampling operations and ensure compliance with the QA/QC requirements of the project/sampling event. Any deviation from the sampling plan will be noted in the Trip Report.

10.0 CORRECTIVE ACTION

All provisions will be taken in the field and laboratory to ensure that any problems that may develop will be dealt with as quickly as possible to ensure the continuity of the sampling program. Any deviations from this sampling plan will be noted in the final report.

ATTACHMENT A
FIGURES AND MAPS

Plainfield Quadrangle.
New Jersey
7.5 Minute Series (Topographic)
1955 (Photorevised 1981)



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ELECTRONICS
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FIGURE 1
SITE LOCATION
MAP

ATTACHMENT B
SOIL SAMPLING SOP EPA/ERT #2012

2.0 SOIL SAMPLING: SOP #2012

2.1 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe the procedures for collecting representative soil samples. Analysis of soil samples may determine whether concentrations of specific soil pollutants exceed established action levels, or if the concentrations of soil pollutants present a risk to public health, welfare, or the environment.

2.2 METHOD SUMMARY

Soil samples may be collected using a variety of methods and equipment. The methods and equipment used are dependent on the depth of the desired sample, the type of sample required (disturbed versus undisturbed), and the type of soil. Near-surface soils may be easily sampled using a spade, trowel, and scoop. Sampling at greater depths may be performed using a hand auger, a trier, a split-spoon, or, if required, a backhoe.

2.3 SAMPLE PRESERVATION, CONTAINERS, HANDLING, AND STORAGE

Chemical preservation of solids is not generally recommended. Refrigeration to 4°C, supplemented by a minimal holding time, is usually the best approach.

2.4 INTERFERENCES AND POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

There are two primary interferences or potential problems associated with soil sampling. These include cross-contamination of samples and improper sample collection. Cross-contamination problems can be eliminated or minimized through the use of dedicated sampling equipment. If this is not possible or practical, then decontamination of sampling equipment is necessary. Improper sample collection can involve using contaminated equipment, disturbance of the matrix resulting in compaction of the sample, or inadequate homogenization of the samples where required,

resulting in variable, non-representative results.

2.5 EQUIPMENT/APPARATUS

- sampling plan
- maps/plot plan
- safety equipment, as specified in the health and safety plan
- compass
- tape measure
- survey stakes or flags
- camera and film
- stainless steel, plastic, or other appropriate homogenization bucket or bowl
- 1-quart mason jars w/Teflon liners
- Ziploc plastic bags
- logbook
- labels
- chain of custody forms and seals
- field data sheets
- cooler(s)
- ice
- decontamination supplies/equipment
- canvas or plastic sheet
- spade or shovel
- spatula
- scoop
- plastic or stainless steel spoons
- trowel
- continuous flight (screw) auger
- bucket auger
- post hole auger
- extension rods
- T-handle
- sampling trier
- thin-wall tube sampler
- Vehimeyer soil sampler outfit
 - tubes
 - points
 - drive head
 - drop hammer
 - puller jack and grip
- backhoe

2.6 REAGENTS

Reagents are not used for the preservation of soil samples. Decontamination solutions are specified in

2.7 PROCEDURES

2.7.1 Preparation

1. Determine the extent of the sampling effort, the sampling methods to be employed, and which equipment and supplies are required.
2. Obtain necessary sampling and monitoring equipment.
3. Decontaminate or pre-clean equipment, and ensure that it is in working order.
4. Prepare schedules, and coordinate with staff, client, and regulatory agencies, if appropriate.
5. Perform a general site survey prior to site entry in accordance with the site-specific health and safety plan.
6. Use stakes, buoys, or flagging to identify and mark all sampling locations. Consider specific site factors, including extent and nature of contaminant, when selecting sample location. If required, the proposed locations may be adjusted based on site access, property boundaries, and surface obstructions. All staked locations will be utility-cleared by the property owner prior to soil sampling.

2.7.2 Sample Collection

Surface Soil Samples

Collect samples from near-surface soil with tools such as spades, shovels, and scoops. Surface material can be removed to the required depth with this equipment, then a stainless steel or plastic scoop can be used to collect the sample.

This method can be used in most soil types but is limited to sampling near surface areas. Accurate, representative samples can be collected with this procedure depending on the care and precision demonstrated by the sampling team member. The use of a flat, pointed mason trowel to cut a block of the desired soil can be helpful when undisturbed profiles are required. A stainless steel scoop, lab spoon, or plastic spoon will suffice in most other

applications. Avoid the use of devices plated with chrome or other materials. Plating is particularly common with garden implements such as potting trowels.

Follow these procedures to collect surface soil samples.

1. Carefully remove the top layer of soil or debris to the desired sample depth with a pre-cleaned spade.
2. Using a pre-cleaned, stainless steel scoop, plastic spoon, or trowel, remove and discard a thin layer of soil from the area which came in contact with the spade.
3. If volatile organic analysis is to be performed, transfer a portion of the sample directly into an appropriate, labeled sample container(s) with a stainless steel lab spoon, plastic lab spoon, or equivalent and secure the cap(s) tightly. Place the remainder of the sample into a stainless steel, plastic, or other appropriate homogenization container, and mix thoroughly to obtain a homogenous sample representative of the entire sampling interval. Then, either place the sample into an appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly; or, if composite samples are to be collected, place a sample from another sampling interval into the homogenization container and mix thoroughly. When compositing is complete, place the sample into appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly.

Sampling at Depth with Augers and Thin-Wall Tube Samplers

This system consists of an auger, a series of extensions, a "T" handle, and a thin-wall tube sampler (Appendix A, Figure 1). The auger is used to bore a hole to a desired sampling depth, and is then withdrawn. The sample may be collected directly from the auger. If a core sample is to be collected, the auger tip is then replaced with a thin-wall tube sampler. The system is then lowered down the borehole, and driven into the soil at the completion depth. The system is withdrawn and the core collected from the thin-wall tube sampler.

Several types of augers are available. These include: bucket, continuous flight (screw), and posthole augers. Bucket augers are better for direct

sample recovery since they provide a large volume of sample in a short time. When continuous flight augers are used, the sample can be collected directly from the flights, which are usually at 5-foot intervals. The continuous flight augers are satisfactory for use when a composite of the complete soil column is desired. Posthole augers have limited utility for sample collection as they are designed to cut through fibrous, rooted, swampy soil.

Follow these procedures for collecting soil samples with the auger and a thin-wall tube sampler.

1. Attach the auger bit to a drill rod extension, and attach the "T" handle to the drill rod.
2. Clear the area to be sampled of any surface debris (e.g., twigs, rocks, litter). It may be advisable to remove the first 3 to 6 inches of surface soil for an area approximately 6 inches in radius around the drilling location.
3. Begin augering, periodically removing and depositing accumulated soils onto a plastic sheet spread near the hole. This prevents accidental brushing of loose material back down the borehole when removing the auger or adding drill rods. It also facilitates refilling the hole, and avoids possible contamination of the surrounding area.
4. After reaching the desired depth, slowly and carefully remove the auger from boring. When sampling directly from the auger, collect sample after the auger is removed from boring and proceed to Step 10.
5. Remove auger tip from drill rods and replace with a pre-cleaned thin-wall tube sampler. Install proper cutting tip.
6. Carefully lower the tube sampler down the borehole. Gradually force the tube sampler into the soil. Care should be taken to avoid scraping the borehole sides. Avoid hammering the drill rods to facilitate coring as the vibrations may cause the boring walls to collapse.
7. Remove the tube sampler, and unscrew the drill rods.
8. Remove the cutting tip and the core from the device.

9. Discard the top of the core (approximately 1 inch), as this represents material collected before penetration of the layer of concern. Place the remaining core into the appropriate labeled sample container(s). Sample homogenization is not required.
10. If volatile organic analysis is to be performed, transfer a portion of the sample directly into an appropriate, labeled sample container(s) with a stainless steel lab spoon, plastic lab spoon, or equivalent and secure the cap(s) tightly. Place the remainder of the sample into a stainless steel, plastic, or other appropriate homogenization container, and mix thoroughly to obtain a homogenous sample representative of the entire sampling interval. Then, either place the sample into an appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly; or, if composite samples are to be collected, place a sample from another sampling interval into the homogenization container and mix thoroughly. When compositing is complete, place the sample into the appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly.
11. If another sample is to be collected in the same hole, but at a greater depth, reattach the auger bit to the drill and assembly, and follow steps 3 through 11, making sure to decontaminate the auger and tube sampler between samples.
12. Abandon the hole according to applicable state regulations. Generally, shallow holes can simply be backfilled with the removed soil material.

Sampling at Depth with a Trier

The system consists of a trier, and a "T" handle. The auger is driven into the soil to be sampled and used to extract a core sample from the appropriate depth.

Follow these procedures to collect soil samples with a sampling trier.

1. Insert the trier (Appendix A, Figure 2) into the material to be sampled at a 0° to 45° angle from horizontal. This orientation minimizes the spillage of sample.
2. Rotate the trier once or twice to cut a core of material.

3. Slowly withdraw the trier, making sure that the slot is facing upward.
4. If volatile organic analysis is to be performed, transfer a portion of the sample directly into an appropriate, labeled sample container(s) with a stainless steel lab spoon, plastic lab spoon, or equivalent and secure the cap(s) tightly. Place the remainder of the sample into a stainless steel, plastic, or other appropriate homogenization container, and mix thoroughly to obtain a homogenous sample representative of the entire sampling interval. Then, either place the sample into an appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly; or, if composite samples are to be collected, place a sample from another sampling interval into the homogenization container and mix thoroughly. When compositing is complete, place the sample into an appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly.

Sampling at Depth with a Split Spoon (Barrel) Sampler

The procedure for split spoon sampling describes the collection and extraction of undisturbed soil cores of 18 or 24 inches in length. A series of consecutive cores may be extracted with a split spoon sampler to give a complete soil column profile, or an auger may be used to drill down to the desired depth for sampling. The split spoon is then driven to its sampling depth through the bottom of the augured hole and the core extracted.

When split tube sampling is performed to gain geologic information, all work should be performed in accordance with ASTM D 1586-67 (reapproved 1974).

Follow these procedures for collecting soil samples with a split spoon.

1. Assemble the sampler by aligning both sides of the barrel and then screwing the bit onto the bottom and the heavier head piece onto the top.
2. Place the sampler in a perpendicular position on the sample material.
3. Using a sledge hammer or well ring, if available, drive the tube. Do not drive past the bottom of the head piece or compression of the

sample will result.

4. Record in the site logbook or on field data sheets the length of the tube used to penetrate the material being sampled, and the number of blows required to obtain this depth.
5. Withdraw the sampler, and open by unscrewing the bit and head and splitting the barrel. If a split sample is desired, a cleaned, stainless steel knife should be used to divide the tube contents in half, longitudinally. This sampler is typically available in diameters of 2 and 3 1/2 inches. However, in order to obtain the required sample volume, use of a larger barrel may be required.
6. Without disturbing the core, transfer it to an appropriate labeled sample container(s) and seal tightly.

Test Pit/Trench Excavation

These relatively large excavations are used to remove sections of soil, when detailed examination of soil characteristics (horizontal structure, color, etc.) are required. It is the least cost effective sampling method due to the relatively high cost of backhoe operation.

Follow these procedures for collecting soil samples from test pit/trench excavations.

1. Prior to any excavation with a backhoe, it is important to ensure that all sampling locations are clear of utility lines and poles (subsurface as well as above surface).
2. Using the backhoe, dig a trench to approximately 3 feet in width and approximately 1 foot below the cleared sampling location. Place removed or excavated soils on plastic sheets. Trenches greater than 5 feet deep must be sloped or protected by a shoring system, as required by OSHA regulations.
3. Use a shovel to remove a 1- to 2-inch layer of soil from the vertical face of the pit where sampling is to be done.
4. Take samples using a trowel, scoop, or coring device at the desired intervals. Be sure to scrape the vertical face at the point of sampling

to remove any soil that may have fallen from above, and to expose fresh soil for sampling. In many instances, samples can be collected directly from the backhoe bucket.

5. If volatile organic analysis is to be performed, transfer a portion of the sample directly into an appropriate, labeled sample container(s) with a stainless steel lab spoon, plastic lab spoon, or equivalent and secure the cap(s) tightly. Place the remainder of the sample into a stainless steel, plastic, or other appropriate homogenization container, and mix thoroughly to obtain a homogenous sample representative of the entire sampling interval. Then, either place the sample into an appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly; or, if composite samples are to be collected, place a sample from another sampling interval into the homogenization container and mix thoroughly. When compositing is complete, place the sample into appropriate, labeled container(s) and secure the cap(s) tightly.
6. Abandon the pit or excavation according to applicable state regulations. Generally, shallow excavations can simply be backfilled with the removed soil material.

2.8 CALCULATIONS

This section is not applicable to this SOP.

2.9 QUALITY ASSURANCE/ QUALITY CONTROL

There are no specific quality assurance activities which apply to the implementation of these procedures. However, the following QA procedures apply:

- All data must be documented on field data sheets or within site logbooks.
- All instrumentation must be operated in accordance with operating instructions as supplied by the manufacturer, unless otherwise specified in the work plan. Equipment checkout and calibration activities must occur prior to sampling/operation, and they must be documented.

2.10 DATA VALIDATION

This section is not applicable to this SOP.

2.11 HEALTH AND SAFETY

When working with potentially hazardous materials, follow U.S. EPA, OSHA, and specific health and safety procedures.

ATTACHMENT C

**SAMPLING EQUIPMENT DECONTAMINATION SOP
EPA/ERT #2006**

1.0 SAMPLING EQUIPMENT DECONTAMINATION: SOP #2006

1.1 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes methods used for preventing or reducing cross-contamination, and provides general guidelines for sampling equipment decontamination procedures at a hazardous waste site. Preventing or minimizing cross-contamination in sampled media and in samples is important for preventing the introduction of error into sampling results and for protecting the health and safety of site personnel.

Removing or neutralizing contaminants that have accumulated on sampling equipment ensures protection of personnel from permeating substances, reduces or eliminates transfer of contaminants to clean areas, prevents the mixing of incompatible substances, and minimizes the likelihood of sample cross-contamination.

1.2 METHOD SUMMARY

Contaminants can be physically removed from equipment, or deactivated by sterilization or disinfection. Gross contamination of equipment requires physical decontamination, including abrasive and non-abrasive methods. These include the use of brushes, air and wet blasting, and high-pressure water cleaning, followed by a wash/rinse process using appropriate cleaning solutions. Use of a solvent rinse is required when organic contamination is present.

1.3 SAMPLE PRESERVATION, CONTAINERS, HANDLING, AND STORAGE

This section is not applicable to this SOP.

1.4 INTERFERENCES AND POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

- The use of distilled/deionized water commonly available from commercial vendors may be acceptable for decontamination of sampling equipment

provided that it has been verified by laboratory analysis to be analyte free.

- An untreated potable water supply is not an acceptable substitute for tap water. Tap water may be used from any municipal water treatment system for mixing of decontamination solutions.
- Acids and solvents utilized in the decontamination sequence pose the health and safety risks of inhalation or skin contact, and raise shipping concerns of permeation or degradation.
- The site work plan must address disposal of the spent decontamination solutions.
- Several procedures can be established to minimize contact with waste and the potential for contamination. For example:

- Stress work practices that minimize contact with hazardous substances.

- Use remote sampling, handling, and container-opening techniques when appropriate.

- Cover monitoring and sampling equipment with protective material to minimize contamination.

- Use disposable outer garments and disposable sampling equipment when appropriate.

1.5 EQUIPMENT/APPARATUS

- appropriate personal protective clothing
- non-phosphate detergent
- selected solvents
- long-handled brushes
- drop cloths/plastic sheeting
- trash container
- paper towels
- galvanized tubs or buckets
- tap water

- distilled/deionized water
- metal/plastic containers for storage and disposal of contaminated wash solutions
- pressurized sprayers for tap and deionized/distilled water
- sprayers for solvents
- trash bags
- aluminum foil
- safety glasses or splash shield
- emergency eyewash bottle

1.6 REAGENTS

There are no reagents used in this procedure aside from the actual decontamination solutions and solvents. In general, the following solvents are utilized for decontamination purposes:

- 10% nitric acid⁽¹⁾
- acetone (pesticide grade)⁽²⁾
- hexane (pesticide grade)⁽²⁾
- methanol

⁽¹⁾ Only if sample is to be analyzed for trace metals.

⁽²⁾ Only if sample is to be analyzed for organics.

1.7 PROCEDURES

As part of the health and safety plan, develop and set up a decontamination plan before any personnel or equipment enter the areas of potential exposure. The equipment decontamination plan should include:

- the number, location, and layout of decontamination stations
- which decontamination apparatus is needed
- the appropriate decontamination methods
- methods for disposal of contaminated clothing, apparatus, and solutions

1.7.1 Decontamination Methods

All personnel, samples, and equipment leaving the contaminated area of a site must be decontaminated. Various decontamination methods will either physically remove contaminants, inactivate contaminants by disinfection or sterilization, or do both.

In many cases, gross contamination can be removed by physical means. The physical decontamination techniques appropriate for equipment decontamination can be grouped into two categories: abrasive methods and non-abrasive methods.

Abrasive Cleaning Methods

Abrasive cleaning methods work by rubbing and wearing away the top layer of the surface containing the contaminant. The following abrasive methods are available:

- **Mechanical:** Mechanical cleaning methods use brushes of metal or nylon. The amount and type of contaminants removed will vary with the hardness of bristles, length of brushing time, and degree of brush contact.
- **Air Blasting:** Air blasting is used for cleaning large equipment, such as bulldozers, drilling rigs or auger bits. The equipment used in air blast cleaning employs compressed air to force abrasive material through a nozzle at high velocities. The distance between the nozzle and the surface cleaned, as well as the pressure of air, the time of application, and the angle at which the abrasive strikes the surface, determines cleaning efficiency. Air blasting has several disadvantages: it is unable to control the amount of material removed, it can aerate contaminants, and it generates large amounts of waste.
- **Wet Blasting:** Wet blast cleaning, also used to clean large equipment, involves use of a suspended fine abrasive delivered by compressed air to the contaminated area. The amount of materials removed can be carefully controlled by using very fine abrasives. This method generates a large amount of waste.

Non-Abrasive Cleaning Methods

Non-abrasive cleaning methods work by forcing the contaminant off of a surface with pressure. In general, less of the equipment surface is removed using non-abrasive methods. The following non-abrasive methods are available:

- **High-Pressure Water:** This method consists of a high-pressure pump, an operator-controlled directional nozzle, and a high pressure hose. Operating pressure usually ranges from 340 to 680 atmospheres (atm) which relates to flow rates of 20 to 140 liters per minute.
- **Ultra-High-Pressure Water:** This system produces a pressurized water jet (from 1,000 to 4,000 atm). The ultra-high-pressure spray removes tightly-adhered surface film. The water velocity ranges from 500 m/sec (1,000 atm) to 900 m/sec (4,000 atm). Additives can enhance the method. This method is not applicable for hand-held sampling equipment.

Disinfection/Rinse Methods

- **Disinfection:** Disinfectants are a practical means of inactivating infectious agents.
- **Sterilization:** Standard sterilization methods involve heating the equipment. Sterilization is impractical for large equipment.
- **Rinsing:** Rinsing removes contaminants through dilution, physical attraction, and solubilization.

1.7.2 Field Sampling Equipment Cleaning Procedures

Solvent rinses are not necessarily required when organics are not a contaminant of concern and may be eliminated from the sequence specified below. Similarly, an acid rinse is not required if analysis does not include inorganics.

1. Where applicable, follow physical removal procedures specified in section 1.7.1.
2. Wash equipment with a non-phosphate detergent solution.
3. Rinse with tap water.
4. Rinse with distilled/deionized water.
5. Rinse with 10% nitric acid if the sample will be analyzed for trace organics.

6. Rinse with distilled/deionized water.
7. Use a solvent rinse (pesticide grade) if the sample will be analyzed for organics.
8. Air dry the equipment completely.
9. Rinse again with distilled/deionized water.

Selection of the solvent for use in the decontamination process is based on the contaminants present at the site. Use of a solvent is required when organic contamination is present on-site. Typical solvents used for removal of organic contaminants include acetone, hexane, or water. An acid rinse step is required if metals are present on-site. If a particular contaminant fraction is not present at the site, the nine-step decontamination procedure listed above may be modified for site specificity. The decontamination solvent used should not be among the contaminants of concern at the site.

Table 1 lists solvent rinses which may be required for elimination of particular chemicals. After each solvent rinse, the equipment should be air dried and rinsed with distilled/deionized water.

Sampling equipment that requires the use of plastic tubing should be disassembled and the tubing replaced with clean tubing, before commencement of sampling and between sampling locations.

1.8 CALCULATIONS

This section is not applicable to this SOP.

1.9 QUALITY ASSURANCE/ QUALITY CONTROL

One type of quality control sample specific to the field decontamination process is the rinsate blank. The rinsate blank provides information on the effectiveness of the decontamination process employed in the field. When used in conjunction with field blanks and trip blanks, a rinsate blank can detect contamination during sample handling, storage and sample transportation to the laboratory.

Table 1: Recommended Solvent Rinse for Soluble Contaminants

SOLVENT	SOLUBLE CONTAMINANTS
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-chain hydrocarbons • Inorganic compounds • Salts • Some organic acids and other polar compounds
Dilute Acids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic (caustic) compounds • Amines • Hydrazines
Dilute Bases -- for example, detergent and soap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metals • Acidic compounds • Phenol • Thiols • Some nitro and sulfonic compounds
Organic Solvents ⁽¹⁾ - for example, alcohols, ethers, ketones, aromatics, straight-chain alkanes (e.g., hexane), and common petroleum products (e.g., fuel, oil, kerosene)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonpolar compounds (e.g., some organic compounds)

⁽¹⁾ - WARNING: Some organic solvents can permeate and/or degrade protective clothing.

A rinsate blank consists of a sample of analyte-free (i.e, deionized) water which is passed over and through a field decontaminated sampling device and placed in a clean sample container.

Rinsate blanks should be run for all parameters of interest at a rate of 1 per 20 for each parameter, even if samples are not shipped that day. Rinsate blanks are not required if dedicated sampling equipment is used.

1.10 DATA VALIDATION

This section is not applicable to this SOP.

1.11 HEALTH AND SAFETY

When working with potentially hazardous materials, follow U.S. EPA, OSHA and specific health and safety procedures.

Decontamination can pose hazards under certain circumstances even though performed to protect

health and safety. Hazardous substances may be incompatible with decontamination methods. For example, the decontamination solution or solvent may react with contaminants to produce heat, explosion, or toxic products. Decontamination methods may be incompatible with clothing or equipment; some solvents can permeate or degrade protective clothing. Also, decontamination solutions and solvents may pose a direct health hazard to workers through inhalation or skin contact, or if they combust.

The decontamination solutions and solvents must be determined to be compatible before use. Any method that permeates, degrades, or damages personal protective equipment should not be used. If decontamination methods pose a direct health hazard, measures should be taken to protect personnel or the methods should be modified to eliminate the hazard.